[Translation]

Pending Schemes

3846. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether schemes of cities having population of more than twenty thousands are lying pending with the Government for clearance; and

(b) if so, the time by which these schemes are likely to be accorded clearance ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Yes, Sir. Some Water Supply & Sanitation Schemes have been forwarded by State Governments in respect of towns and cities having population more than 20000 for technical clearance.

(b) No time frame cane be given regarding accordance of technical clearance, Since this can be possible only after detailed assessment of the technical & financial viability of each scheme, and this assessment is an on-going process involving frequent interaction with State Governments and their agencies.

[English]

Genetic Violations

3847. SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV : Will the Minister of SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) whether this Department has asked the Planning Commission for allocation of more funds to study the genetic violations of India's diverse population groups;

(b) if so, the main aims of this project;

(c) whether the Planning Commission has agreed to provide more funds for this project; and

(d) if so, the time by which this project is likely to be commissioned ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main objectives of the programme are : a) to understand genetic variation among different population groups in the country, b) to develop the new science of genetic epidemiology and c) to assess the genomic variations and susceptibility/resistance of population to different diseases and disorders.

(c) and (d) Yes, the Planning Commission has provided adequate funds for the Annual Plan 1997-98. The programme has already started, as part of the ongoing activities under human genetics.

[Translation]

Allocation for EAS, IAY – 1996-97

3848. SHRI ILIYAS AZMI : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the amount allocated to Uttar Pradesh during 1996-97 under the Employment Assurance Scheme and the Indira Awas Yojana, separately;

(b) whether the Union Government have any monitoring mechanism so as to ensure that the State Governments do not discriminate in the allocation of amount to their respective districts after they have been allocated the plan outlay;

(c) whether the Government propose to formulate any scheme for the development of the most backward areas of Uttar Pradesh and to directly make allocations for the development of such areas;

(d) whether the Union Government are contemplating to formulate any scheme to spend more amount for the rural development schemes and the development o most backward areas so as to bring these at per with the development areas; and

(e) if so, by when and if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU) : (a) The amount allocated to Uttar Pradesh during 1996-97 under the Indira Awas Yojana is Rs. 216.16 crores. No allocation is fixed for Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) as it is demand driven scheme. However the total availability of funds under EAS during 1996-97 is Rs. 251.57 crores.

(b) the monitoring mechanism, interalia, consists of obtaining periodical progress reports/returns, financial returns/audit reports, intensive field inspections, reviews and monitoring by committees and by senior officers with the State Secretaries, Commissioners etc.

The Government regularly monitor and review implementation of programmes in various states through the Central Level Coordination Committees, State Level Coordination Committees and at the district level by the governing body of the District Rural Development Agencies.

(c) The Government have appointed a Committee to identify 100 most backward districts in the country including in the State of Uttar Pradesh

(d) and (e) It will depend upon the report of the Committee mentioned in (c) above.

[English]

Generation of Nuclear Power

3849. SHRIMATI SARADA TADIPARTHI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal before the government to generate Nuclear Power in the coastal region of Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the present position of the scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Kaiga Power Plant

3850. SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the time by which the Kaiga Power Plant likely to become functional; and

(b) the other details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) The Kaiga Atomic Power Project consists of 2 units of capacity 220 MWe each. As of now, all activities other than dome construction are in an advanced stage, with an overall physical progress of around 82%. In respect of IC dome of Kaiga unit-2, Design basis report has been approved by the regulatory authority. Steel support structure for I.C. Dome construction has been erected. Installation of wooden form work is expected to be completed by end March 1997. Mock-up for portion of dome near steam generator openings is expected to be completed by end March, 1997. Concreting of I.C. Dome is scheduled to be completed by June 1997.

As regards Kaiga Unit-1, Design Basis Report (DBR) for re-engineering work of I.C. Dome Is expected to be submitted by end March 1997 to the regulatory authority for approval. After the approval of the regulatory authority is received for the DBR, design report will be submitted to regulatory authority by end April 1997. Clearance for the design report is expected in September, 1997 and the I.C. Dome construction is scheduled in October 1997. Most of the major equipments have been installed and testing and commissioning activities of certain systems have been started. Round and clock work will be carried out in the area of inner containment dome construction, nuclear piping and other critical areas of construction. With concerned efforts, Kaiga units-2&1 are expected to achieved criticality in May, 1998 and November 1998 respectively.

R And D Cess

3851. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS :
SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI

Will the Minister of SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount accumulated in the R&D Cess Fund during the last three years;

(b) whether any loan is given from this fund for indigenous technology projects;

(c) if so, the total amount so disbursed;

(d) whether the Government proposes to give more autonomy to R&D Cess Board; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and likely benefits for according more autonomy to this Board ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI. YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) The cess collected under the Research and Development Cess Act, 1986 (as amended in 1995) during the last three years is as follows :

	Rs. (in crores)
1993-94	60.73
1994-95	71.42
1995-96	81.41

(b) and (c) The proceeds of the Cess are first credited to the Consolidated Fund of India. Central Government makes funds available as appropriated by Parliament to the Technology Development Board (TDB) which was constituted in September, 1996 under the Technology Development Board Act, 1995. The Board includes representatives from Ministry of science and Technology, Departments of Expenditure, Industrial Development, Rural Development and persons having experience in technology development and application, banking and finance, industry, agrlculture and rural development. The Board provides equity capital and financial assistance to industrial concerns and other agencies attempting development and commercial application of indigenous technology or adapting imported technology to wider domestic applications under the provisions of the Act. No disbursement has been made by the Board as 62 applications received are evaluated. The applications cover areas such as Agriculture, Medical, Electricals & Electronics, Rural Development, Biofertilisers & Biopesticides, Chemicals, Civil & Mechanical Engineering, Transport and Energy.

(d) and (e) The functioning of the Board is governed